MAR 1 3 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A JOINT STUDY TO MODERNIZE REGULATIONS FOR PRODUCTIVE DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURE.

WHEREAS, Hawaii was once world renowned for its mass production of sugar and pineapple; and

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WHEREAS, the downsizing and closures of major sugar and pineapple producers caused a major loss in jobs and economic stimulus in the agriculture industry; and

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WHEREAS, the diversification of agricultural crops is the logical choice to replacing monocrop farming as it has potential to recreate the once vibrant agricultural economy; and

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WHEREAS, current regulations are still built on the foundation of monocrop farming; and

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WHEREAS, there is a need to modernize regulations so that they are conducive for diversified agriculture; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that the Department of Agriculture and Department of Health are encouraged to conduct a joint study to modernize regulations for productive diversified agriculture; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture and Department of Health are requested to study various farms in relation to acreage, location, and other characteristics to see what regulations may be modernized; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Agriculture and Department of Health are requested to jointly submit a report of their findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture and Director of Health.

OFFERED BY